

2017 Computer Refresh Program MacBook Air

What's Included in the Box

- 13" MacBook Air - 8G RAM, 128GB storage, 2 USB ports, 1 Thunderbolt/Mini Display port, 1 SDXC slot for an expansion card
- Power Adapter with extension cable
- Thunderbolt to Ethernet adapter
- Mini Display port to VGA adapter

Benefits

The MacBook Air's flash storage, over traditional hard disk storage, provides for significantly faster performance, including booting up, starting applications, loading existing files and the battery will last longer. You will come to appreciate the speed, lightness and thinness of the MB Air.

Limitations

1. Less storage space available than in earlier Apple computers.
2. Only one Thunderbolt/Mini Display port so users are unable to connect to wired internet and an external monitor at the same time with the provided adapters.
3. Some applications that used to come installed on a new Apple computer must now be downloaded, such as iMovie, iPhoto, Pages, etc.

Solutions

1. **Less Storage** – Historically, Mac laptops had hard disks with 250 - 500 GB of storage space. The EMU-Refresh MacBook Air has only 128 GB of storage space. The majority of faculty/staff use less than 50 GB of space. However, you can store data in the cloud, or purchase additional storage on either an external hard disk, or a storage card that plugs into the SDXC slot. For external storage suggestions, please go to <http://www.theminidrive.com/>. We recommend the 128GB Mini Drive. If you have questions, please contact the IT Help Desk at it.helpdesk@emich.edu or call them at 734-487-2120
2. **Fewer Ports** - The MacBook Air has 2 USB ports and 1 Thunderbolt/Mini Display port. In the box there are a 'Thunderbolt to Ethernet adapter', and a 'Mini Display port to VGA adapter' which both plug into the Thunderbolt/Mini Display port. With the EMU provided adapters you can connect either to a classroom projector (or external monitor), or a wired Ethernet cable. But **NOT** both at the same time. Most buildings on campus have good wireless capabilities, but to print to a department printer, or access some campus servers you must be connected via the wired Ethernet connection. If you want to be connected to both an external monitor and wired Ethernet at the same time you will need to purchase either a USB to Ethernet adapter (recommended) or a USB to VGA adapter.
3. **Bundled Applications** – Apple provides bundled applications (Garage Band, iMovie, iPhoto, Keynote, Numbers, and Pages) via download through the App Store application. Simply open the application and go to the "Purchases" tab where you will find them waiting for you to "Accept".

Contact Information

If you are having difficulty obtaining the bundled apps contact the IT Help Desk at 734.487.2120, or email it.helpdesk@emich.edu.